



# News Release



Shelby County Health Department

814 Jefferson Ave., Memphis, TN 38105

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 11, 2013

CONTACT: Heather Burton  
Mobile (901) 270-7179  
Office (901) 222-8216

## Shelby County Health Department Emergency Preparedness Program Holding Unique Exercise

MEMPHIS, TN – On Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, the Shelby County Health Department's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program (PHEPP) will hold a door to door medication delivery exercise. This exercise will test the viability of door to door distribution as an effective tool for medication delivery in an urban environment.

Public health employees and volunteers will be distributing sealed, empty medication bottles to nearly 2800 residences in the Collierville and Germantown communities. In the event of a real emergency, the bottles would hold the necessary medications to treat or prevent adverse reactions to any bioterrorism event, such as anthrax.

**“Door to door delivery is just one way of getting medicine to people quickly. This type of exercise will allow us to see if this is a mode of delivery we can pursue and depend on in a time of emergency,”** said Dr. Helen Morrow, Health Officer for the Shelby County Health Department. **“At this time, we have no reason to believe a threat is eminent, but exercise and preparation is our best course of action to ensure our ability to effectively respond to threats if they occur.”**

PHEPP strives to introduce new and proactive ways to effectively serve the community during public health emergencies. Our top priority is the safety and well-being of citizens in Shelby County and the Mid-South. If you would like to know more information about this exercise, or any other PHEPP activities, please call (901) 270-7179.